

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Los Angeles, California 90012

At the Budget Deliberations held June 18, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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The following matter was called up for consideration:

Health Department Budget Committee of the Whole/Joint Meeting of the Board of Supervisors:

Report by the Director of Health Services on the financial status of the Department.

Dr. Bruce A. Chernof, Director and Alan Wecker, Acting Chief Finance Officer, Department of Health Services, addressed the Board.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a motion, that the Board direct the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Health Services to use the last in, first out (LIFO) method to transfer from the Department's reserve surplus funds into the Measure B reserve at the end of Fiscal Year 2007-08, if the managed care rate increase or any other adjustments are received that create a surplus.

Supervisor Molina made the following statement:

"In their Fiscal Outlook, but not included in the Final Changes Budget, the Department of Health Services is examining some significant changes to mental health services in our public hospitals as a means of deficit reduction. The most significant of these proposals is a plan to close Psychiatric Emergency Rooms in the County, leaving fewer options for patients who may be a danger to themselves or others. Before we make such a significant policy decision, and certainly before we start to count the savings from such an action, this Board needs information and a justification for this action.

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"I therefore recommend that the Board require the Directors of Health Services and Mental Health to present a full report to this Board in 30 days, in writing and in public session, on the Department's plans with regard to mental health services in our public hospitals and the current status of Psychiatric Emergency Rooms in each of our County facilities, including staffing, bed availability, average daily census, and number of persons turned away due to capacity limitations."

After further discussion, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky and by common consent, there being no objection, the Board took the following actions:

- 1. Received and filed the Director of Health Services' report on the financial status of the Department;
- Directed the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Health Services to use the last in, first out (LIFO) method to transfer from the Department's reserve surplus funds into the Measure B reserve at the end of Fiscal Year 2007-08, if the managed care rate increase or any other adjustments are received that create a surplus; and
- 3. Instructed the Directors of Health Services and Mental Health to present a full report to this Board in 30 days, in writing and in public session, on the Department's plans with regard to mental health services in our public hospitals and the current status of Psychiatric Emergency Rooms in each of our County facilities, including staffing, bed availability, average daily census, and number of persons turned away due to capacity limitations.

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In addition, the Board requested the Director of Health Services to provide charts and or spreadsheets on various issues for discussion during his scheduled presentation on June 19, 2007 related to the status of State and Federal investigations of Martin Luther King, Jr.-Harbor (MLK-Harbor) Hospital:

- The transfer, reassignment and discharge of employees, which includes employees who have left County ervice;
- The number of employees who have left both inpatient and outpatient services, as well as nonpatient care;
- The implementation of Metrocare;
- Staff leadership changes;
- Employee interview process; and
- Employee training

2007-08 budget\budget deliberations minutes\06-18-07_item_2.doc

Attachment

Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
Director of Health Services